

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, UY

SUBJECT:NEW REPORTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
REF: PEZZULLO-GRAHAM TELCON, 8/L0/77.

1. IN REPLY TO REQUEST BY MARK SCHNEIDER OF D/HA, JUAN FERREIRA SUPPLIED FOLLOWING LIST OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS WHICH REPORTEDLY HAVE OCCURRED IN URUGUAY DURING PAST 45 DAYS.

(A) FERREIRA TABULATES THAT BETWEEN 200-250 NEW ARRESTS HAVE OCCURRED. HE RECENTLY VISITED HIS FATHER IN LONDON AND ALSO TALKED TO THE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL URUGUAY DESK WHILE THERE. HE STATES THAT AMNESTY HAS PUT TOGETHER A LIST OF ABOUT ONE HUNDRED NAMES OF NEW POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND IS IN THE PROCESS OF TRYING TO VERIFY THE ACCURACY OF THE LIST FROM OTHER SOURCES BEFORE RELEASING IT.

(B) REPORTS OF RENEWED TORTURE INCLUDE HUMBERTO PASCARRETTA, AN IMPRISONED TRADE UNION LEADER, WHOSE BODY WAS RETURNED
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TO HIS WIFE AT THE END OF JUNE. A FAMILY REQUESTED AUTOPSY INDICATED EVIDENCE OF TORTURE. PASCARRETTA HAD BEEN ORIGINALLY DETAINED BY THE "DIRECTOR DE INTELIGENCIA." TWO OTHERS REPORTEDLY ARRESTED DURING THE SECOND HALF OF JULY AND TORTURED, AND STILL ALIVE, ARE J. IGLESIAS AND ANTONIA PEGINESSI. FERREIRA MENTIONED ALSO SOME NINE BODIES

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FOUND IN THE RIVER PLATE, WITH THE IDENTITY OF ONE
URUGUAYAN TENTATIVELY ESTABLISHED BY A TATOO. THIS
LATTER CORPSE WHOSE NAME FERREIRA DID NOT HAVE, REPORTEDLY
DISAPPEARED SEVERAL WEEKS PREVIOUS TO BEING FOUND IN THE
RIVER.

(C) RECENT ARRESTS INCLUDE LUIS ALBERTO VIERA,
IDENTIFIED AS A WELL-KNOWN PRESENT OR FORMER PROFESSOR
AT THE UNIVERSITY; FORMER STATE LEGISLATOR JUAN ACUNA;
UTE EMPLOYEE A. LAVECCHIA; HONORIO LINDER; EDUARDO
PLATERO.

(D) THERE WAS ALSO A RECENT ARREST WITHIN THE FERREIRA
FAMILY. JUAN'S SISTER SILVIA AND NEW HUSBAND, LEON
MORELLI, WERE ARRESTED FOR APPROXIMATELY 48 HOURS SEVERAL
WEEKS AGO AFTER THEIR WEDDING BANS WERE PUBLISHED IN
EL DIA. THREE DIRECTORS OF THE NEWSPAPER WERE
REPORTEDLY ARRESTED AT THE SAME TIME. THEY ARE ANIBAL
BARBAGELATA, ENRIQUE DARRIGO AND A SR. GUZMAN.

2. WE HAVE NOT, AS YET, RUN A FILE CHECK TO DETERMINE
WHETHER ANY OF THESE CASES WERE REPORTED BY THE EMBASSY.
THE EMBASSY MAY WISH TO CITE REFERENCES TO SUCH CASES.
A ROUNDUP WOULD BE APPRECIATED ON WHAT FERREIRA DESCRIBED
AS WIDELY CIRCULATED RUMORS AND REPORTS IN MONTEVIDEO
OF THE NEW ARRESTS.

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CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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